

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 00439 270730Z

22-11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 270645Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6372

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0439

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, ECON, XH

SUBJ: TOURISM IN ROMANIA

REF: 75 STATE 265651

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: FOR THEPAST SEVERAL WEEKS WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO DEVELOP INFORMATION IN RESPONSE TO STATE 265651 BUT HAVE BEEN STYMIED IN EFFORTS TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE (ONT). ALL DIRECTORS ARE REPORTED TO BE EITHER ABROAD ON BUSINESS OR ON VACATION. IN INFORMATION-SCARCE BUCHAREST, ONT WILL PROBABLY BE ONE OF THE BEST SOURCES OF INFORMATION. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT HOLD MUCH HOPE FOR VERY FULL RESPONSES TO OUR QUESTIONS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: EMBOFF HAS LEARNED FROM SEVERAL ONT EMPLOYEES THAT WEEKS OF JANUARY 5-17 WERE CHARACTERIZED AT ONT BY INTENSE INTERNAL POLITICAL JOCKEYING, BRINGING ONT TO A STANDSTILL. AT A GENERAL MEETING OF MANAGEMENT LEVEL OFFICIALS ON JANUARY 19, SEVERE CRITICISM WAS REPORTEDLY LEVELLED AT ALL DIRECTORS EXCEPT THE ONE FOR PUBLICITY AND PROPAGANDA. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, HOWEVER, ALSO SCHEDULED TO COME UNDER FIRE, HAD CONVENIENTLY CHECKED INTO A HOSPITAL A DAY OR TWO BEFORE FOR TREATMENT OF SOME CHRONIC CONDITION. ONT IS NOW IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION UNTIL HIS RETURN WHEN, IT IS RUMORED, HE AND HIS DIRECTORS (MINUS ONE) WILL ALL GET THE AXE ON CEAUSESCU'S ORDERS. IN THIS ATMOSPHERE, WE
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BELIEVE THE REQUEST BY ONT'S PROTOCOL OFFICE TO CALL BACK FOR

AN APPOINTMENT ON JANUARY 28 SHOULD GIVE US NO ENCOURAGEMENT.
END CONFIDENTIAL.
BARNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: izenbei0
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